



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

vations of the movements of the ice, its method of fracture, the distribution and composition of moraines, and the state of the atmosphere. All of these, together with innumerable descriptions of mountain scenery, are set forth in detail. The phases of the volume which hold the attention, however, are the wonderful pictures, and the self-control with which the Italians stuck to their work while in the field and refrain from boasting of their success now that they have returned.

The achievement of this expedition brings renewed evidence to show that the attainment of high altitudes, while in part a matter of abundant means, adequate equipment and trained mountaineers, is still more a question of steady persistence and wise planning. If K² or Everest were among the Alps, as Filippi well says, it is probable that they would be climbed within a few years; but their remoteness, the necessity of a hard journey of two or three months to reach even their base, and the frequent storms of summer or the low temperature of winter, are almost insuperable obstacles. Hence, we cannot say with certainty that they ever will be climbed. There does not seem, however, to be any physiological reason why this should be so. "The Duke's expedition," to quote de Filippi, "offers the clearest proof that men can live for extended periods of time, in possession of healthy functional activity of all their organs, at an atmospheric pressure little more than half of normal. Twelve Europeans and fifteen coolies lived for about two months at above 17,000 feet of altitude, working regularly and not showing a single case of illness, even of the most fleeting character, attributable to mountain sickness."

ELLSWORTH HUNTINGTON.

Patriarchal Palestine. Canaan and the Canaanites before the Israelitish Conquest. By the Rev. A. H. Sayce. 254 pp. Map, index. Soc. for Promoting Christian Knowledge, London, 1912. 4s. 8 x 5.

This is a revised edition of a work printed in 1895, when Palestine excavation was in its beginnings. Little was then known of the history of the country prior to the invasion of the Israelitish people. Since that time the decipherment of monuments in Babylonia, Assyria, Egypt and Palestine has made clear much of this ancient history. The author is perhaps too eager to assert the unqualified historical character and Mosaic authorship of the Pentateuch and dismisses with sweeping denial the conclusions of higher criticism, as set aside by archaeological discoveries. At the same time he sets up the traditional belief of the Jewish and Christian church concerning these matters as authority to which unquestioning heed must be given.

A few of the leading facts of the physical geography are reviewed in the opening chapter on the land. An account of the native tribes is then given, followed by an extended chapter on the Babylonians in Canaan. The story of the Patriarchs is told, adding little, however, to the narrative of Genesis, except in emphasis on one point, *viz.*: that Abraham found the country of his adoption full of the ideas and people of Babylonia. The relations of Palestine to Egypt are recounted and there is reference to the general geographical situation of the land, and its significance, but without special enlargement of our outlook on this theme. The closing account of Canaanitish culture and religion and of the results of recent excavations come nearer than other parts of the volume to meeting the anticipations of interest aroused by the title.

A. P. BRIGHAM.

The Chinese. By John Stuart Thomson. 441 pp. Ills., index. Bobbs-Merrill Co., Indianapolis, 1912. 9 x 6.

In this volume we have the pretentious record of what seem to be the gatherings of one who was engaged upon the clerical side of commercial operations in the treaty ports. In places it reads with as little connection as if it were the transcription of notes jotted down on library cards and assorted under any one of a dozen general headings. It is superficial: there is no pretense to look under the surface, embroidered or squalid, of Chinese life to obtain a comprehension of the nature of this oldest of the civilized societies. The value of these notes must be determined by our estimate of the capability of the observer, for the witness must always be an integral part of his testimony. We note a few points which are germane to the examination of the witness. On his page 15 he mentions

an Anglican bishop wearing a "sun-topy"; this is an oddity of etymology, for the *sola topi* derives its name from the Indian word *sola*, which is the name of the plant whose pith is used in these very light helmets; thence the English have mistakenly spelled it *solar topi* and now we see the mistake translated into English. Within a few lines the author misuses "of his ilk" in complacent ignorance of the sense. On page 24 he speaks of the rat and the flea as "transmitters of the virulent *bubo bacillum*," and whether he uses Latin or leaves it alone he seems equally destined to fail. On page 40 he shows how little he can record what he sees; after describing the homeless as sleeping on the pavements "on their backs with knees up" he continues with a note that the police "belabor every stretched out, upturned foot," a thing which would be found particularly difficult in such a pose. Two pages onward, continuing the police theme, he notes "their ability to roll diphthongs and the letter r," — the rolling diphthong is certainly a curiosity of philology. Again he tries the Latin; in commenting on the interpretation of the imperial banner where the dragon is forever vainly gobbling after the blue pearl he writes: "this is not meant to convey the futility of empire, but rather our idea of *Exsertens, perpetua*," whatever our idea may be. It is a work which may properly be disregarded by serious students and which will probably mislead into serious error those who are not fitted to evaluate its statements. However, this gem from page 216 will add to the joy of the students of metaphor: "She gave birth to Japan and threw that people safely into a glorious orbit of its own, the heat of which is now reciprocally warming a new spring into being as it swings near its parent orb." WILLIAM CHURCHILL.

AUSTRALASIA AND OCEANIA

Reports of the Cambridge Anthropological Expedition to Torres Straits.

Vol. 4: Arts and Crafts. xxiii and 393 pp. Map, ills. University Press, Cambridge, 1912. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York. £1 5s. 11½ x 9.

This is a monument to the indefatigable industry of Dr. Haddon, the director of the expedition, for no less than 14 of the 18 essays bear his name as author and in all but two he has had a co-operating share. As heretofore, a considerable amount of the illustration is derived from draughtsmen of the islands, a very valuable factor in the study of design and ornament to which Dr. Haddon has devoted so much attention. Thus we obtain further instances of the mirror drawing which seems to bear upon the little comprehended theme of rotation in vision, a theme which has escaped careful study in the lack of sufficient data. The islands of Torres Straits are a focus of the very interesting cats-cradle. This reaches a high stage of development in Hawaii, is found throughout Polynesia, is scantily practiced in Melanesia but here reappears in full force. No less than thirty-one intricate patterns are here given in text and pictures, accompanied by the songs with which the manipulation of the cord is attended. In the preparation of this essay so much tributary material was gathered and elaborated by Dr. Haddon's daughter that she has published a separate monograph upon the cats-cradle and other amusements with string. Another of these essays has great value, that upon music by Charles S. Myers resting upon a large number of phonographic records; the vocal sounds have been carefully established in reference to the musical scale now in civilized use and the theory of intervals sedulously worked out; the only lack which we note is that too little attention has been paid to the long final note with which each song ends. The implements of peaceful and warlike art occupy a large space and the description of their manufacture and employment rests upon prolonged narratives by the folk who make and use them. In connection with the beheading knife of bamboo, students of comparative culture will be surprised to discover how among these savages the notching of the knife for each man killed arises from the nature of the material. WILLIAM CHURCHILL.

Easter Island. The Rapanui Speech and the Peopling of Southeast Polynesia.

By William Churchill. 340 pp. Index. Publication No. 174, The Carnegie Institution, Washington, 1912. 10½ x 7.

The *Journal of the Polynesian Society* (Vol. 21, 1912, No. 4) says that Polynesian scholars are placed further under a debt of gratitude to Mr. Churchill by the issue of this volume on a very interesting branch of the widely spread